W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

June 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

This repprt is somewhat delayed on account of the fact that we took a group of our best boys and girls of the Vacation Bible School on a camping trip as a reward for the excellence of their work.

The Vacation Bible School exceeded our goal. We tried to make the School a community affair, but of course the Catholic Church did not participate, and the Church of the Open Door refused also, and that left the Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches in charge of the field. There was a staff of thirty instructors secured before the school started. Workers from both Churches and a number who had no connection with either Church secured their instruction and materials the week before the school was to begin. We used three buildings, and all the facilities of both Churches. The school paid for itself and we have a little money left to begin the next year.

We set a goal of enrollment of 150 pupils, and were happy to have passed that mark by five. We set a goal of ninety per cent in attendance, but our mark that we made was about 81 per cent, as our average attendance of pupils was about 122. But the instructors were very faithful in their attendance bringing the average daily attendance up to 146. The total attendance for the three weeks of the school and including the program was 2421.

We set three awards, a minimum, average, and a maximum, those who met the minimum standard were given a bronze pin, those meeting the average standard were given a gold pin, and those meeting the maximum standard were given a gold pin and the trip to camp for three days that I mentioned above. Eleven boys and girls won this award. They knew they would get the pin, but the camping trip was kept secret from them until the last day.

We had a problem concerning the program with which we have always closed the school. With 150 possible pupils in attendance, where would we put our audience? The Presbyterian Church holds about two hundred, and the Episcopal Church is smaller. We tried to secure the Elks Hall, but they wanted $50 rent. So we finally decided to keep the children in the other two buildings while one group was performing. We were rewarded with an attendance of over two hundred. But this did not solve our problem of the program itself. With such a great group, it would necessarily be long, so it was decided to give the two plays at a later date. You will hear more about that in the next report.

I have received the Church letter of two more people, who will be added at the earliest convenience. I wrote for one more just last week. And last Sunday, there were two new Presbyterian families in Church, one an Elder, and another a Deacon, whom I know will come into the Church.

And another happy experience occurred in the month. About thirty ladies came down from Palmer to participate in our Friendly Aid meeting. There was a pot luck luncheon served and a program on "Child Welfare" and a short business meeting. Rev. Bingle has probably told you of the good time we all had. There were ninety ladies present, and about ten children and Rev. Bingle and Mysel f.

The camping trip was made to King's Lake near Wasilla where Rev. Bingle has established a camp. This camp is the property of the Palmer Church, but will be available for similar camping trips, and also for a Young People's Summer Conference. I took my camera with me to get some pictures, but it was very cloudy all the time, so I took only one that I could not resist. It is enclosed. The top of the wooden dining and cooking room shows at the top of the picture, but not enough to get an idea of how nice a place it is. My ~~xxx~~ back is toward the lake from which we have taken the trout. In all the youngsters caught more than 150 fine rainbow trout. Besides this one wooden structure, which is about 25x35 feet, there are two tents 16x20 feet, and Rev. Bingle expects to erect another wooden building before long. The wooden buildings are permanent. In the first part of my report you will notice that I took a trip to Palmer. That was to help Rev. Bingle set up the tents, and clear away some of the ground, and tear down an old building that had served its usefulness last summer. I would have gone more often during the month except that we had planned our Vacation Bible School, and it was to last three weeks.

I have been trying to think of the standards we set for the awards, and I am not sure that I remember them, but this will give you an idea of the work that we did, and what was required of the students of the Vacation Bible School.

Minimum- attendance- 90 per cent award- bronze pin
citizenship- 90 per cent
craft- 90 per cent
Bible memory- 23 Psalm, Bible story.

Average- attendance- 100 per cent award - gold pin
citizenship - 100 per cent
craft- 100 per cent
Bible memory- 23 Psalm, Bible story, Beatitudes

Maximum- Attendance - 100 per cent award- gold pin and trip to camp
citizenship - 100 per cent
craft- 100 per cent
Bible memory- 1, 23, and 100, Psalms, Bible story, Beatitudes
Books of the Bible
Participate in the play.
Participate in Worship period by telling stories

Besides these things, the boys and girls learned songs in the song period, learned new crafts such as making hooked rugs, weaving baskets, making kites, and a number of other things. Our play period was in co-operation with the Junior Chamber of Commerce who secured a play director for the Community for the Summer months.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

William A. McAdoo

July
14th
1938

Rev. William A. McAdoo,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

I was delighted to learn that your vacation Bible school this year was such a great success, and that you exceeded your goal of an enrollment of 150. It would seem to me that this is rather convincing evidence that the present leadership in our Anchorage church is handling this situation in a satisfactory way.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

July 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

I believe that I told you about our trip to King's Lake for camp with the young people. That was not a group of people of Conference age, but between the ages of eleven and fourteen.

This same group of young people put on a play at the evening service on June 26, and occupied twenty minutes of the time with a wonderful program. Then I preached my Junior sermon. The play was entitled, "So Let Us Serve." A girls quartet and a soloist provided the music which accompanies the script. It was quite effective.

The Primary Sunday School teachers met and decided to have a float in the annual Fourth of July parade. They fixed on a designand we all pitched in and made it as follows:- a small Church, with decorations and contours similar to our own, with a yard in which stood Liberty, Brotherhood, Justice, and Independence. As it ended up, the Church was a building 3x6 feet, and about ten feet high to the top of the steeple. It was just a framework covered with heavy cardboard and kalsomined white, the windows were cut out of colored drawing paper, the grass for the yard was secured from Fred Carlquist's undertaking parlors, the flowers in the yard were gathered from the road sides. The whole float, of which we were very proud, cost us just twenty cents, which was paid for two boxes of tacks. Mr. Robert Atwood donated the heavy cardboard. And we did not take a prize. But we led the parade, and everyone felt that there was definite advertising value in the float even though it did not win a prize. We got so many comments on it that it was worth while for that alone.

The session at its meeting voted three people into Church membership but each of them were not able to be present and received on Communion Sunday. I gave them a list of eight names at that meeting that I wanted them to help me work on for Church membership.

Even so, we had one of the finest services on that day that we have ever had, with about sixty people taking Communion. That is the most we have ever had.

Another fine thing for the Church was the return of Mr Atwood, Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly from Yukon Presbytery, who gave his report on the tenth of July. We gave him the whole morning service. When he and his wife returned, we had them and Mr. Rasmuson to dinner. He told us of the fine time and the advancement in spiritual welfare that the general Assembly gave Him.

Our Choir director, Mrs. Jack Harrison gave a recital of her voice pupils in the Church which was attended by over one hundred people. Afterwards, the Church remembered that we had been their pastor for two years, and gave a reception for us in the Church parlors.

In His Service, William A. McAdoo

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

August 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

I have been very busy getting ready for the first annual Young People's Conference of Southwest Alaska. The Conference is to begin on August 26th, and to last until September 1st. I am teaching two classes, and I am in the midst of preparing them. I must say that it is thrilling to be helping in this way. I have attended Young People's Summer Conferences as a delegate but never before as a teacher, and it is the more thrilling because this is the first one to be held in this part of the country.

I suppose that Rev. Bingle has told you that we are expecting some delegates from Seward, both from the Methodist Church and the Jessie Lee Home, some from Anchorage, some from Eklutna Vocational School, and some from Palmer and Wasilla and Matanuska. It is too much to hope for delegates from points so far away as Fairbanks and Cordova, although we expect that when the Conference becomes established then we shall see delegates from those distant points.

The Elders this year decided to continue both morning and evening services of the Church during the Summer because although only a few might attend, it would not be robbing those few of a time of worship. We have noticed that on the fine days the attendance has been less than on the bad days when people did not venture out into the country on picnics and fishing trips. We have had no choir at all during the Summer since I have been in Anchorage. They tell me that it was the custom for the choir to disband in the Summer as it was usually composed of school teachers who went outside then. So our Summer attendance has been without benefit of choir.

During the month one new member was added to the Church. I am very thankful that some of the people are responsive to the approach of the Church. We shall have more soon, as I have seven prospects on my list, and hope to have more. The town of Anchorage is growing and there is no reason why the Church should not grow also. As you know, this one makes the total of fourteen received into the Church since the first of April of this year. In telling you of that number I do not believe that I included two that were restored to the roll of active members, which two would make sixteen. We are aiming at twenty five for the Church year.

I have a number of requests for letters about myself and my work up here that it keeps me rather busy answering them. And we have had a number of visitors this Summer, that it has kept me busy showing them around.

There is an emergency situation in the public school here, and to meet it we have rented to them the basement and the primary rooms of the Church. It will be for a period of five months until the school building is completed. So far as we can determine, it will not hinder us in any way.

Sincerely yours,

William A. McAdoo

William A. McAdoo

Somerdike

FIRST ANNUAL YOUNG' PEOPLES CONFERENCE

OF SOUTH WEST ALASKA

(Includes all Protestant Young People of S.W. Alaska)

Sponsored by the Young People of the United Protestant Church - Palmer, Alaska

Held at King's Lake Camp 4½ miles from Wasilla,- 10½ miles from Palmer

CONFERENCE FACULTY

Rev. A. J. Clements - Methodist Church - Seward, Alaska

Miss Bonney - Jesse Lee Home - Seward, Alaska

Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo - Presbyterian Church - Anchorage, Alaska

Rev. B. J. Bingle - United Protestant Church - Palmer, Alaska

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Dean - - - - - - - - - - - - - Rev. B. J. Bingle
Camp Director - - - - - - - Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo
Asst. Camp Director
(inc. morning Devotions)- Ben Anderson
Boys Council - - - - - - - - Rev. A. J. Clements
Girls Council - - - - - - - - Mrs. M. D. Snodgrass
Directors of Music - - - - Ina Belle Irwin
Katheryn Kennedy
Registrars: Priscilla Miller
Gayle Pippel

Pianists: Mrs. Vernon Moreman
Mrs. Max Sherrod
Recreation directors: Joan Anderson
B. J. Bingle
Life Guards: Bob Warner
Gerald Lamp
Campfire Talent Night: Ina Belle Irwin
June King
Vespers: Rev. A. J. Clements

DAILY SCHEDULE
1938 Conference
Kings Lake Camp

6:45 A. M. - Rising Bell
7:00 A.M. - Breakfast
7:30 A. M. - Morning Devotions - Assorted Leaders - Ben Anderson, Chairman
7:45 A. M. - Study
8:30 A . M. - First Class Period
a. "Life of Christ for Young People" - Miss Bonney, Seward
b. "Brief Survey of New Testament" - Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo, Anchorage
9:30 A. M. - Second Class Period
a. "How to Teach in the Church School" - Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo, Anchorage
b. "The meaning of Church Membership" - Rev. A. J. Clements, Seward
10:30 A. M. - Recess
10:45 A. M. - Third Class Period
a."Young People's Society Methods" - Rev. A. J. Clements, Seward
11:45 A. M. - Fourth Class Period
a. Vocations and Stewardship - Rev. B. J. Bingle, Palmer

DINNER
1:00 P. M. - Rest hour
2:00 P. M. - Group Conferences

2

DAILY SCHEDULE (Continued)

2:30 P. M. - Swimming and games - Recreation - Rev. B. J. Bingle, Palmer
Joan Anderson, Matanuska

4:00 P. M. - Free Time.

6:00 P. M. - SUPPER

7:00 P. M. - Vespor - Rev. A. J. Clements, Seward.

8:;5 P. M. - Public Meeting - Assorted Speakers - Bon Anderson, Chairman

9:15 P. M. - Camp Fire - for Young People - Dr. C. Earl Albrecht, Leader

10:15 P. M. - Prayers in tents - - - - - - Lights Out.

First Young People's Conference in Yukon Presbytery

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

September 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

The highlight of the report of this month is the Young People's Summer Conference that we held at King's Lake near Palmer, Alaska. Before I go further into detail, I want to tell you that I borrowed a movie camera and took one hundred feet of film of the Conference, and if you want a copy for publicity purposes, you may have a copy made if you will let me know. I have not had them back yet from the processing station and I do not know how good they may be, but as soon as I find out I will let you know.

This was the making of history in two ways. It was the first Young People's Conference in Western Alaska. And also it was significant from the fact that there were white people, and Indians, and Eskimos in attendance, all participating in and enjoying the conference together.

I enjoyed teaching my two classes, one, A Brief Survey of the New Testament, and the other, How To Teach in the Church School. But I did not have a great lot of work as Camp Director, for the schedule went along smoothly as outlined in the program, and there was little necessity for my office, for everyone co-operated in making the camp a success.

Everyone in attendance, who had not seen the Colonist's farms were taken on special side trips to view them. And they were also taken to the Experimental Farm, and to the Independence Mine, and to the Corporation Buildings in Palmer.

The set-up of the camp of course was quite different from those in the States. I have attended two conferences in Pennsylvania, and at each one, established college buildings and equipment were made use of. Here, Rev. B. J. Bingle has worked hard setting up a permanent wooden building to be used as a kitchen and dining room. Then for dormitories, big tents 16 by twenty feet were set up and wooden floors were laid in them. Four of those were needed to house the twenty eight delegates and eight faculty and counselors. The tents had been used by the colonists when they first came to Palmer. So also were the flat spring cots and the mattresses that were apportioned for each one. But there the equipment stopped. Each one had to provide his own bedding- but it is a poor Alaskan who does not boast of a bed roll as his very own. There was no running water- unless as Rev. Bingle loves to joke, someone runs it. We used the clear cold water of the Lake. It was a sight to behold in the morning to the "Cheechako" eye to see the gravel beach of the Lake lined with everybody washing his face and brushing his teeth and combing his hair. The Seward delegates said the Lake was much warmer than the lakes at their home, but they were all born here in Alaska anyway and knew nothing different.
There were no electric lights. We used oil lamps and gasoline lamps for the evening meetings, and then too the camp fire seemed to be all the light we needed until we went to bed. A few had thought to bring along flashlights, and if they all were in the same condition as mine when they got home, they needed new batteries.

On Sunday, August 28th, the whole Sunday School and congregation of Rev. Bingle's Church at Palmer came out to the Camp and we held Church services there. He had asked Rev. A. J. Clements of Seward to preach.(His people have all heard me preach). And then there came up the problem of what to do with all the Juniors and Primary kiddies, of which there were about seventy, while the Church service was being held. The dining room could not hold very many people, and if we tried to crowd them all in it would be an impossible situation. So I said I would tell them a couple of my Junior sermons and then if the other service were not finished, we would take them for a short hike, which we did, and arrived back in camp just as Rev. Clements was pronouncing the benediction. Afterwards, we all joined in a picnic lunch, the most of which was brought by the visitors- and if you know how farmers can load down a table so that it almost groans under the weight, then you know why everyone sits around all Sunday afternoon wishing he had not eaten so much.

At the evening meetings, inspirational and vocational guidance talks were made by Mr. Irwin, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Thumma, Dr. Albrecht, Mr. King.

A tribute to the work of Rev. Clements is paid when we note that his conduct of the evening vesper service led up to the last evening when eight boys and girls made decisions for Christ.

We concluded the formal program of the conference with an early morning Communion Service before breakfast on the last day.

Our recreation was different from that of a conference inthe States. Some of the group enjoyed swimming, but for most of them, the water was too cold. There were three rowboats and an old dugout canoe, which was the first boat used by the Kings on the lake, and these were in constant use, either for rowing about the lake or for fishing. There was but one accident- one of the boys fell overboard with his clothess on, and in shallow water. He changed his mind about the water and decided that it was warm, and the next day went swimming.

Everyone went to his home agreed that the conference was fine and that they had had a good time, and resolved to work in their church and work also toward holding another conference next summer.

During the week of the Fair at Palmer, the Anchorage Church and the Palmer Church united in an evening service at Palmer. There were only thirty five people who could break away for the short service. Rev. Bingle said his church was full of Anchorage people in the morning service.

Our Fall activities started with the Choir resuming its part in the evening service, and the first meeting of the Friendly Aid, and the Junior Choir beginning its practices. The Choir had twenty two out to its first practice last tuesday- The Aid had forty two at its first meeting- the Junior Choir had eleven.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

October 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

We have gotten back into full swing again with the work of the Anchorage Church. It seems good to be busy again every day of the week.

I will begin with the Juniors. The Junior choir was begun again and we had to look for a new leader, as the one who directed it last year left Anchorage. Mrs. Atwood continues to play for both the Junior and the adult choirs. She is invaluable in the work of the Church. Mrs. Glen Jones was secured to lead the junior choir. They have been practicáng now for more than a month. Each time they practice there seems to be more boys and girls.

The Junior C. E. also needs a new leader, for the one who was in charge last year has also left Anchorage. We have not found a leader for this group, but they continue to meet, and the number keeps up pretty well. They have had two socials, and they have invited two adults to be their leader but neither accepted the offer.

The Senior C. E. is a fine group this year. We thought we were going to lose so many going outside to school but a group has sprung up to take their place. They are interested in the Young People's Conference and they are thinking of ways and means to send a delegation there next Summer. We are going to show the movies of the Conference when they get back- I have one roll but the other is delayed- and we are going to have our delegates to that Conference make a report at the same time. They too have had a social and enjoyed it immensely. We are glad for this group for we have interested two girls in the Church who were beginning to drift away.

The Choir has begun ambitiously too. They took the opportunity to have a concert singer appear here and make some extra money for new music. The Choir is planning to put on a program in the future aside from the regular special holiday music. A number of new faces appear in the choir and the group has exceeded our expectations. It is really the life of the evening service. Though the People have been turning out very well too, as you can see by the report. We had a reception after the concert for the singer, Mrs. Bowen, and had a very delightful evening. It was an opportunity not often had in Alaska.

The Friendly Aid keeps goiag. The Ladies are very busy preparing for their annual bazaar. Their programs at each meeting are such that you are not able to attend without a spiritual uplift. Their plan of organization is very helpful. They have a visiting basket, which must be taken by the one who receives it to another member of the Aid. They also have a calling committee of two who are to call on the sick and the absnet members of the Aid. This committee is changed every meeting. With these two things all members of the Aid and the Church and new members and sick people get called on and everyone becomes acquainted with everyone else. Besides that there is a Pastor's Aid committee whose chief function is to help the Pastor.

On Rally Day, we had one hundred and four in the Sunday School. The Teachers co-operated in putting on a program. I believe I sent you a copy of it,-I can not find any here.

Two funerals and three weddings completed a full month.

The attendance at the services is doing well.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

Anchorage Presbyterian Choir

presents

MARGARET BOWEN

Soprano

IN

CONCERT

Assisted by the Presbyterian Choir
Mrs. Jack Harrison, Director
Mrs. Robert Atwood, Accompanist

Empress Theater
October 13, 8:15 p. m.

PROGRAM

I

Ave Marie ..... *Gounod-Bach*

MARGARET BOWEN—SOPRANO

II

Connais-tu le pays "Mignon" ..... *Thomas*
Le Miroir ..... *Ferrari*
Ouvre tes yeux bleus ..... *Massenet*

MRS. BOWEN

III

Still As The Night ..... *Carl Bohm*
Danny Boy ..... *Old Irish Air*
Jeannie ..... *Stephen Foster*
Song of London ..... *Cyril Scott*

MRS. BOWEN

IV

Oh, Praise The Lord, All Ye Nations ..... *Carrie B. Adams*
Jesus, Lord of God Incarnate ..... *Charles Gounod*

PRESBYTERIAN CHOIR

V

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth "Messiah" ..... *Handel*

MRS. BOWEN

VI

Homing ..... *Del Riego*
In The Luxembourg Gardens ..... *Manning*
Second Minuet ..... *Besly*
Friend of You ..... *Harriet Ware*
Pippa's Song ..... *Kate Black*

MARGARET BOWEN

Oct.
21st
1938

Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

Your report of the summer conference was not only very interesting but very inspiring. I want to thank you for it. One of my greatest encouragements this year has been this forward step that was taken in western Alaska in establishing a young people's conference. I am glad that you had such a prominent part in the program.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Oct.
27th
1938

Rev. William A. McAdoo,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

Thank you for your letter of October 14th and for the clippings which you enclosed. I am glad that you are enthused over the prospects of your church for the coming winter. Everything seems to be active around your church, and I am delighted to know that your work is going forward in such a satisfactory way. I hope that the attitude of Mr. Attwood toward you has undergone a change and that he is now cooperating in a thoroughly helpful way.

In answer to your question as to how to interest the elders in attending prayer meetings, I can give only one answer - namely, to make the meetings so interesting that the elders will not dare to stay away. I would suggest that you vary the prayer meeting program, and instead of conducting it yourself every week use the elders to conduct it every now and then. You might advertise some special subjects to be discussed. You might make the prayer meeting service a discussion group for the congregation, discussing questions of interest pertaining to the church and its work, and also the relation of the church to the very many community problems that you have there in Anchorage.

I have no formula for getting rid of Mrs. Donald, or for checking her activities which are detrimental to your church. The only way to treat a person of that sort is to be very kind, indulgent, and yet very firm. She has a perfect right to refuse to join your church, but I think that you ought to frankly tell her that a very important part of her Christian duty - if she does not want to unite with the church - is to refrain from doing it harm.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

November 15, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

The months seem to come and go before I know that they are here. This one certainly passed quickly. In it we had two meetings of the session to talk over the application to the Board for aid for the coming year. With all the financial data at our hand, we voted to ask the Board for the same amount as last year. Also, with the light still on, the session is determined to put across a good canvass next Spring- one that will mean something. I am trying to make the most of the situation.

I finally received my film back from the processing station, and I am flattered that I took such good pictures. Rev. Bingle was down one day from Palmer and I ran them through a projector for him to see and he was much impressed with them. We were both very much impressed with the price of the film. My camera holds a fifty foot magazine and the plain black and white costs $3.50, and color film costs $5.00. And you know that fifty feet makes only about a three minute showing on the screen. Well, when I ran the film through and told him that was five dollars' worth, he could not get over it.

We had a combined meeting of the Junior and Senior C. E. and ran the film for them. There were twenty four at the meeting. The most of the boys and girls of the Sunday School had been up to the King's Lake Camp, either with the Girls' Scouts, or Boy Scouts, or with a group that I took up, or with a group that was taken up the latter part of the Summer by the recreational director of the city.

The Junior C. E. had a Hallowe'en social. They rigged up a series of booths, 1. Fortune Teller 2. For Boys Only 3. Ghost Remains 4. For Girls Only 5. Fish Pond 6. Through the Old Mill. They bobbed for apples, and had a very good time.

The Primary department also had a party, and had a big crowd as usual with their parties, and had a very good time.

The Friendly Aid suffered a set-back during the month. Phil O. Herriman, chief inspector on the Alaska Railroad, died of flu-pneumonia. Mrs. Herriman who was the President of the Aid, left Anchorage. She went outside to live with relatives. The Aid is at the last stage of preparation for their annual bazaar. And Mrs. Herriman has really been the spark plug of the Aid ever since we have been in Anchorage. She has been a regular attendant at our Prayer-meeting and a teacher in the Sunday School. So you see what an inroad on our work her going makes.

The Choir is preparing an ambitious program for Thanksgiving. I wish youn could be here to hear it. I do wish you or someone from the States could drop in on us up once in a while to give us some inspiration. It seems that all the other denominations have a representative up here once a year and our people feel that we have few such visits to inspire us to go on to bigger and better things.

We are plugging along. We are all well. We have had about a foot of snow. And the other day the thermometer dropped to six degrees below zero- on that day it was colder in Anchorage than at Point Barrow, which registered four degrees below zero.

Sincerely yours,

William A. McAdoo

Dear Friends; 12-30-38

In this fashion I am writing you a Christmas and New Year's letter with every good wish for your joy and prosperity, and increase in joy and fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Of our Christmas services you may read in the enclosed bulletins. They do not include a program of our Sunday School entertainment. This program contained thirty six separate items, and would have itself filled one of the bulletins. The attendance at our Christmas services was entirely satisfactory. Everyone entered into the Christmas programs with spirit and helped to make them a success.

And the Pastor and his family fared well too, over the holidays. We have all maintained our good health. Both Mary and Kathryn were remembered with gifts by almost all the members of the Church. The wife and myself were given many beautiful things, much fruit, cake, and candy, a picture by Mrs. Sydney Laurence, a set of dishes, much clothing, many other things for the home, and twenty five dollars in cash from various sources, one as far away as Kittanning, Pennsylvania, and the others from the good people of our local Church. Taken as a whole, our Christmas was one grand gesture of the love of our people here and elsewhere for us, each individual casting in his share as the Lord had prospered him.

One thing we look forward to with perhaps more expectancy and excitement is the box we have received each year from the First Presbyterian Church of Kittanning, Pennsylvania. We are very glad for this box, and it has helped draw us near to the place where I lived as a boy, and where I first went to Church and Sunday School. We are looking forward to the time when we shall go back there with some more or less permanent records to show these good folks, and say hello again to them all. We take this opportunity to thank everyone who had a part in making up this gift which actually overflowed our cup of joy.

Our Thanksgiving Cantata was so good that the local radio station broadcast it the night before Thanksgiving. We would also have broadcast our Christmas music if there had been a time when everyone was not so busy. On December 22 the Men's Glee Club gave a concert. I am enclosing a copy of the program which made all of us work hard to put on. Mrs. Jack Harrison, our Choir Director, is director also of both the Men's and Women's Glee Clubs. And a number of member s of the Choir are members also of the glee clubs The Choir planned a Christmas party- they felt they had not had a social for so long, and they wanted to show their appreciation of the services of Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. R. B. Atwood, pianist, with special gifts. And with the services of the Church, the program, the finding and decorating of a large tree, we had very little time to spare. Not to mention the Christmas party of the Friendly Aid which took place after Christmas, and the Junior Choir party. Someone gave the Junior Choir a big box of candy canes and three gallons of ice cream, so they dedicated the numbers that they sang on Christmas day to the donors.

The picture on the bulletin is a good picture of our Church taken some time ago- before the yard was fenced in.

The shortest day of the year, with less than five hours of daylight has come and gone. But the longest and hardest part of Winter is yet to come. The coldest official temperature so far is -15. That is not so bad, when we read of -35 in the States.

Very sincerely yours,
The McAdoos, by W. A. McAdoo

Rev. W. A. McAdoo, Pastor

Manse, 613 Fifth Avenue
Phone, Black 108

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends:

May your allegiance to the Christ-Child be strengthened and enlarged by your joy in the celebration of the day of his birth. And may your joy in Him be increased as your hearts are enlarged to accommodate Him and His love. And may His love surge through you and bring joy, not only to you, but to all who know you.
Isaiah 9:6, 7. *Sincerely,*

Rev. W. A. McAdoo

• •

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."—Romans 13:11.

Sundays:
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
6:30 p.m.—Christian Endeavor.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship.

Tuesdays:
6:30 p.m.—Junior Choir Practice.
7:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Practice.

Second and Fourth Wednesdays:
8:00 p.m.—Friendly Aid.

Thursdays:
7:30 p.m.—Prayer meeting.

EVERYBODY WELCOME!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

"The Community Church"

CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE AND F STREET

Christmas Program

1938

"EXCEPT A MAN BE BORN AGAIN, HE CAN NOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."—JOHN 3:3.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1938
MORNING WORSHIP, 11:00 A. M.

Prelude- "The Manger of Bethlehem" - Lane
*Processiona l- 20- "O Come All Ye Faithful"
*Doxology- Invocation- Lord's Pra yer
Junior Choir- "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"
Dedicated to Mrs. Harry Hoyt
Junior Sermon- "Keeping Christmas"
Prayer
Junior Choir- "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"
Solo by Barbara Smith
Dedicated to Anchorage Igloo of Pioneers
*Recessional- 72- "Silent Night"
Responsive Reading- 597- "The Prince of Peace"
Creed- 530- "The Apostle's Creed"
*Gloria
Scripture- John 1:1-18
Pra yer
Offertory- "The Weary World Is Waiting" - Lane
Offertory Prayer
Solo- "O Wondrous Light" - Bernard Hamblen
by Mrs. Lila Murray
Sermon- "Where God And Man Meet"
Prayer
*Hymn- 163-"While Shepherds Watched"
*Benediction

- - - - - - -

*Congregation standing

- - - - - - -

JUNIOR CHOIR

DIRECTOR- Mrs. Anna Logan
Pia nists- Mrs. R. B. Atw ood, Mrs. Jack Harrison

SOPRANOS:- Sidney Jean Raynor, Edith Erickson, Anna Parsons, Margaret Jones, Betty Vaara , Jea n Vaara, Florence Jenkins, Harriet Jenkins, Joyce Smith, Bettie Noose.
Altos:- Louann Raynor, Pearl McCallum, Phyllis Reed, Barbara Smith, Frank Berry, Leslie Wa ldron, Howard Fowler.

EVENING WORSHIP, 7:30 p. m.

Prelude- "To The Evening Star" - Wagner
*Processional- 180- "Angels from the Realms of Glory
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Hymn- 435- "From the Eastern Mountains"
Scripture- Luke 2:1-20
Prayer
Hymn- 241- "We Three Kings of Orient Are"
Offertory- "My Heart At Thy Sweet Voice" - St. Saens
Offertory Prayer
Choir- "Fling Wide The Gates of Praise" - Lane
Illustrated Sermon- "The First Christmas"
Pryaer
*Recessional- 203- "The First Noel"
*Benediction

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUESDAY evening, at 6:30 o'clock, Junior Choir. 7:00 o'clock, Senior Choir and Christmas party. Gifts will be exchanged. Maintain your Christmas Spirit. Games will be played; refreshments served.
WEDNESDAY Afternoon in the Church Parlors, the Friendly Aid will hold its annual Christmas Party, at which gifts will be exchanged and the "Mystery Sisters" will be revealed. 2 p. m. is the time.
Instead of Prayermeeting, a Watch Night Candle Light Service will be held at the Manse on New Year's Eve at Eleven O'clock.
NEXT SUNDAY, January 1st, is our Communion Sunday. Everyone should plan to be on hand, and begin the New Year with a close association to Christ and His Church.
BEGINNING the first Thursday in January, and continuing through Easter, the Pastor will illustrated talks at Prayermeeting on, "The Book and the Church" You are invited to come and follow along in your Bible from week to week in this very instructive course. Come and Bring a Friend.

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

1-16-39

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

This month contained our Christmas programs, in which we had concentrated much effort, and which rewarded us accordingly. The joy of the season was marred by the burning of our Primary Sunday School building, of which you already know. The Anchorage fire chief said that the furnace was too near the ceiling of the basement and that the wood had been slowly cooked over a period of years and was ready to catch at any time. We are proceeding according to your instructions. Mr. Henry Sogn has been appointed at a joint meeting of the Trustees and Elders to handle the matter from this end.

We are holding Sunday School in the Church. The arrangement while not entirely satisfactory from the viewpoint of those classes which formerly had a classroom to themselves, is good from the standpoint of economy. There has been much agitation here over a period of years for a central heating plant, one which would heat the Church, the primary building, and the manse, and which would be enclosed ina new addition to the Church at the rear of the present Church building, adding to the seating capacity of the Church for special services, and doing away with the present primary building, using the addition for the Primary Sunday School. This idea has always been defeated for lack of funds. It began when the Rev. Marple was pastor. Much money could be saved on fuel costs. And those who have continually agitated for more room for special occasions would be satisfied. And also certain other difficulties would be overcome.

Christmas carolers, a choir party, the Aid party, The Sunday School Entertainment, the Choir cantata, and Watch Night service marked the last week of the old year.

As I believe I told you, we had one of the best Christmases ever. We were just literally showered with presents, and our two girls were remembered by nearly everyone in the Church. We were fortunate in having three weddings over the holidays receiving fifty dollars in fees. We also received thirty five dollars in cash gifts.

I can not seem to understand the attitude toward our prayermeeting this year. Sometimes the people will come and then again they do not. I can not predict when they will or willnnot come.

Our choir has begun to practice for Easter this year. We are planning a program of some very fine music. I wish you could hear it.

It has snowed about six inches in the last few days, and now it has gotten colder again. The temperature went below zero again last night.

Extensive preparations are being made again for a Fur Rendezvous this February. I am not on that committee this year. I felt it was too much work for the little remuneration I got out of it. I tried to get them not to have basketball games on Sunday, and also

to have a Rendezvous Church service and Community Sing, but I was out-voted on both propositions. That was last year. This year, several of us ministers are going to have a booth for the distribution of religious literature during the four days of the Rendezvous, selling Bibles also, if it is desired. If you have any tracts, or copies of publications like "To-day" or any other pertinent literature, and would send them to us, we will be glad to distribute them.

We came near to having a ministerial association in Anchorage during the last month, but it met a snag in the Episcopal and Catholic men. We may form one yet.

I hear that Rev. B. J. Bingle of Palmer has gotten out a petition to the Territorial Legislature concerning the liquor situation. He anticipated us by only a few days. Ours is drawn up and nearly ready for presentation to the public for their signing.

Conditions are bad here. Young high school boys and girls are allowed into places where it is sold. Drunks walk the streets as in the days of the saloon. There is a certain part of town that the ladies shun. Respectable business is suffering from unpaid accounts while people spend their income for liquor. Juvenile delinquency is increasing, if not directly because of liquor, indirectly because of lax parental supervision occasioned by their visiting of night clubs and increased use of liquor. At present there are upwards of thirty places in Anchorage where liquor is sold. It must be stopped, and there is no better time than right now.

So much emphasis has been placed on the native and liquor that the white man and boy and girl and liquor has been slowly going to the dogs because he has been thought to be a superior being.

I could keep on the subject for a long time, as it is a pet with me, but I think I have given you the most important items.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

William A. MCAdoo

P.S. Please send me some more monthly report blanks. The one enclosed is the last one I have — I am keeping my records on a sheet of paper until I hear from you.

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

2-15-39

Dear Sterling Friends;

I call you that out of desire on my part that arose in an incident during the month that is just past. One evening we had just come home from our Parent-Teacher Association meeting when the telephone rang. Someone whose name I could not make out was calling from one of the less pretentious hotels, saying that because of the sermon I had preached the Sunday Morning before on the subject, "Jesus Saves", that I ought to be able to do some good for a man there who was feeling very low. The person did not want to trouble me to go out so late at night and thought that if I did not want to go I might come around in the morning and see this man who had also been drinking. He did not know that I was being called. But I said that if he needed help then I had better go right away, and assured the caller that I would be over at once.

I found a man about thirty five years old sitting on the edge of his bed. The chambermaid had prevented his going out to commit suicide. But when I got there he was determined still to go. As I talked with him I found what his trouble was. He thought that he did not have a friend in the world. He had no one to live for or with. He had no one upon whom he could lavish the money which seemed to be easy for him to make. He had no trouble getting or holding a job. But no one seemed to care for him. I tried to tell him that God loved him. Jesus loved him, and died that he might be saved. It was odd that that did not have the desired effect upon him. But I see now on looking back that something else was destined to be. For after seeing his determination to kill himself arise again, it suddenly came to me that if God and Jesus loved this fellow, then I do too. And I began to persudde him so. And during the effort, a love arose in my heart for him and a sympathy and understanding of his case and nature, and with the strength of prayer he was diverted from his former purpose, and resolved to face life again with the knowledge that there is someone who cares.

So I call you Friend, and I want you to be to me the kind of friend that I tried to be to that outcast.

The experience has changed the tone of my preaching and the atmosphere in the Church somewhat.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our Young People's Day program. At the last minute the program was changed to include another number by the Junior Choir. We all feel very proud of our Young People's group. They are pointing toward the Young People's Summer Conference this year, and I am sure that we shall have a delegation there that will do our Church justice.

The Church was the scene of one of the largest weddings of the year on Sunday January 29. We offered the bride the use of the manse for her reception, and she accepted. The Church was crowded to the doors and the manse was so full as to make moving about impossible.

The reason this report is late is that there was another strike for three weeks, which delayed the delivery of the report blanks that you sent me. It also delayed the meeting of Presbytery, which we postponed until the boat schedule is more regular and definite. The old timers say that it is worse than during the time when there were no boats at all.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
REV. W. A. MCADOO, PASTOR
YOUNG PEOPLE'S DAY PROGRAM, FEBRUARY 5, 1939
BETTY MCCALLUM, C. E. PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

Prelude- "Andantino" - Gluck
*Processional- 131- "O Zion Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling"
*Litany, followed by The Lord's Prayer (see below)
Piano solo- "I Would Be True" - by Anna Parsons
Scripture Reading- Mark 4:24-33 - by Frank Berry
Guitar and Mandolin duet- "Under The Double Eagle" and
"Red Wing" - by Paul and Mary Maxine Keller
Prayer, in unison (see below)
Clarinet solo- "The Old Refrain" - by Louann Raynor
Theme- "His Kingdom Comes" - by Robert Donald
Announcements, by the Pastor
Offering
Offertory- "Prayer" - Steele
Offertory Prayer
Anthem- "We've A Story To Tell To The Nations"-by the Junior Choir
Theme- "It Is God's Kingdom" - by Jean Landstrom
Marimba solo- "All Through The Night" - by Leslie Waldron
Theme- "A Kingdom Of Deeds, Not Dreams" - by Mary Maxine Keller
*Recessional- 139- "Lead On, O King Eternal"
*Benediction- by the Pastor

- -

*Congregation please stand for these parts of the service

- -

LITANY- Leader- O Lord, Thou hast set before us a great hope that Thy Kingdom shall come on earth, and hast taught us to pray for its coming. Make us ever ready to thank Thee for the signs of its dawning, and to pray and work for the day when Thy will shall be done in earth as it is in Heaven.
Congregation- We thank Thee, O Lord.
Lead- Holy Spirit of God, direct our judgment into that true sense of values and standards that we may know what is of real worth.
Congregation- O Lord, hear our prayer.
Lead- Give us knowledge of ourselves, of our abilities and weakness of our graces and our failings, that we may seek to correct that which is amiss.
Congregation- O Lord, hear our prayer.
Lead- Make us to see clearly the path in which we should walk and the goal toward which we should press.
Congregation- O Lord, hear our prayer.
The LITANY is followed by The Lord's Prayer.

- -

PRAYER IN UNISON- Almighty God, our Father, ceaseless Creator of the everchanging world, Lord divine, Spirit and Preserver of life, we thank Thee for Thy continued presence in the mind and heart of man, making him ever discontent with things as they are, urging him forever onward and upward. Guide us, in the spirit of the Lord's Prayer, in building the kind of a world which will help men to be and do good. Lead us not into temptation. Deliver us from the evils of war and of an economic system which places profit above personality. Lead us into that co-operative commonwealth of God in which all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Increase our faith in Thee, O God. Hear us as with the ten thousand times ten thousand of Thy blessed and elect children in this and all ages, we praise Thee and magnify Thy holy name. Thou alone art love; Thou alone art holy; Thou alone art the Creator and Savior of Thy people; and in Thee alone do we put our trust. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Feb.
24th
1939

Rev. Wm. A. McAdoo,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

With reference to your request for tracts or publications like TODAY, I will say that I am sending under separate cover a catalogue of our Board of Christian Education. If you find in that catalogue any tracts or other literature which you think you can use to advantage, please give me the titles of the material you select and I will endeavor to secure it for you.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

3-10-39

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

I have been elected Commissioner to the General Assembly from Yukon Presbytery.

I expect my wife and family to accompany me.

What can I expect from the Board of National Missions to help with traveling expenses for them?

Will appreciate an early reply.

We are preparing for Easter- there are a number of people ready to unite with the Church- I do not know the exact number, but I believe it will be about ten.

To-night we are having a father and son banquet. We are preparing for sixty five.

Must close in haste. The train was delayed by a snow slide, it seems, just so I could get this letter on board.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

William A. McAdoo

P. S. Thank you, I received the blanks.

REVISED FURLOUGH REGULATIONS FOR ALASKA MISSIONARIES

1. That after five years of continuous service in isolated fields of Point Barrow and Wales, a furlough of one year be granted with full salary, with the understanding that one-half of the furlough be at the disposal of the Board for study or promotion service, and the other half to be spent at the discretion of the missionary.

2. That such furlough be taken during the months following the missionary's attendance at the General Assembly as a Commissioner.

3. That the expenses of the missionary's wife and minor children be allowed from his field of labor in Point Barrow and Wales to Seattle, Washington, and for their return from Seattle to his field of labor, if in agreement with the Board and the Presbytery he resumes his labors in Yukon Presbytery upon completion of his furlough.

4. That other missionary pastors in Alaska and Yukon Presbyteries, and other employees in comparable circumstances, be granted a furlough of four months, after completing five years of continuous service, with full salary during the period of the furlough. It is understood that each missionary is entitled to an additional vacation not to exceed one month each year to be arranged for at a time acceptable to the local field.

5. That so far as practicable, such furlough be taken in the year in which the missionary is elected as a Commissioner to the General Assembly. In electing Commissioners to the General Assembly the Presbytery is requested to cooperate with the Board and the missionary by giving preference in such election to the missionary who has completed the necessary term of service entitling him to a furlough.
It is understood that only one ministerial Commissioner can be elected to the General Assembly each year from Alaska and Yukon Presbyteries. Therefore, in cases where in any given year more than one missionary is entitled to a furlough by reason of having completed five years of continuous service, provision will be made by the Board to pay the expenses of the missionary who cannot be elected as a Commissioner to the General Assembly from his field of labor to Seattle and return, in addition to the expenses of his wife and minor children.

6. That the expenses of the missionary's wife and minor children shall include boat fare, berths, meals, and transfer of baggage. Hotel accommodations in Seattle may be included in cases where the missionary and his family are obliged to await the date of sailing of the boat for Alaska.

7. The Board shall not be obliged to pay furlough salary allowance to missionaries who discontinue their work before completing the full five years necessary to receive a furlough. However, in such cases the Board may pay the return travel expenses of the missionary, his wife and minor children to Seattle, Washington.

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

3-15-39

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

This month was marked by two social activities of the Church, sponsored by the Friendly Aid. First there was a "Husbands' Party" to which all the members of the Aid were invited to bring their husbands. More than fifty people attended and all had a good time.

Then the Aid served a banquet to the Fathers and Sons of the Church. Fifty seven fathers and sons enjoyed the dinner and program. A copy of the program is enclosed, but some details were sprung as surprises, and these are not incorporated in the printed program. First as soon as grace was sung and all were comfortably seated at the table, the waitresses sang a couple of songs about how they were going to serve, and what kind of ideal boys they were going to marry some future day. After the dinner got going and a radio had been turned on to provide music, the broadcast was interrupted with a broadcast from station H E L L, a short fireside talk by his satanic majesty. He told the world of the good work carried on by the Presbyterian Club of Anchorage, how good had been spread there for a number of years, and how a fine group of boys was growing up to be like their fine fathers, and how this club had opposed him openly, and that he was going to try his best to stop it.

George Vaara, the master of ceremonies, proved to be a wise choice. He asked several boys to tell of their hobbies, and several men to tell of their careers from the time they left school. These were in addition to the speakers on the printed program.

One of the most interesting facts that came out of the dinner was about a Mr. Buchanan who brings about one hundred and fifty boys to Alaska every Summer.

The menu of the dinner was as follows; tomato juice coctail, fruit jello on lettuce salad, roast veal, scalloped potatoes, peas, rolls, butter, jelly, pickles, coffee, milk, pumpkin pie, nuts and fudge. The price was $1.25 for one father and one son. And the Aid realized about twenty dollars profit. And this was in Alaska, where prices are high.

This week saw a revival of interest in the midweek meeting. It may be the starting of the Lenten season. And it may be the way we are handling the meetings. We have made it an open forum and allow the group to discuss any subject of religious significance of the day. They must present an article from a magazine or newspaper, or a digest of such, as their contribution to the discussion. We found the Jewish question a very interesting one, especially the implications with respect to the second coming of Christ.

The Friendly Aid at its second meeting of the month had a Missionary topic,"Alaskan Missions". Rev. A. B. Martin, who had been a Moravian Missionary near Bethel, Alaska, showed his pictures of the work in that country. It was very interesting and revealing. His work was typical of all work among Eskimos and Indians in Alaska.

In His Service,

William A. McAdoo

PROGRAM OF THE FATHER AND SON DINNER, MARCH 10, 1939
AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THEME, "FATHER AND SON, INC." MASTER OF CEREMONIES, GEORGE VAARA
SONG LEADER, HENRY HOWARD
MEASURER OF EARS AND NOSES, FRANK BERRY, ASSISTANT, FRANK BERRY

1. Call to dinner at 6:15 p. m.
2. Grace- all sing softly and prayerfully song number one below
3. Dinner
4. Songs as printed below
5. Violin solo by Walter January
6. Speakers, Glen Jones, and Robert Donald
7. Measuring of ears and noses – A prize was given for the largest.
8. Speakers, Dewey Metzdorf, and E. A. Rasmuson
9. Sing number two below clasping hands with persons next you
10. Benediction
11. Fathers and sons go home together

- -

SONGS

1. Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye Heavenly Host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

2. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

3. Our boys (dads) will shine to-night.

4. Let the rest of the world go by.

5. For he's a jolly good fellow.

6. D-d-d-daddy, d-d-d-daddy,
You're the only d-d-d-dad that I adore,
When the c-c-c-call comes from the woodshed,
I'll be going out the p-p-p-parlor door.
S-s-s-sonny, s-s-s-sonny,
You're the only b-b-b-boy that I adore,
When the t-t-t-time comes to go to the woodshed
I will meet you at the p-p-p-parlor door.

7. There are dads (boys) that make us happy,
There are dads that make us blue,
There are dads who love us like a brother,
Day by day we find them always true.
There are dads who fill our lives with sunshine,
They are always making us feel glad,
But my dad, oh gee, he is a dandy,
He's the best dad I ever had.

- -

THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE ASSOCIATION

1. To keep alive the best in American life for the boy.
2. To get fathers to renew their interest in and reconsecrate their efforts to their parental obligations.
3. To lead sons to a deeper respect and appreciation for their fathers and their homes.
4. To lead both to the recognition of the Church and Sunday School as necessary to the finest development of character, and to co-operate in the work and support of the Church in extending and making effective in every-day life the will of God.
5. To acquaint fathers with simple principles of boy psychology.
6. To encourage fathers and sons to accept and consecrate themselves in a larger way to their privileges of citizenship.
7. To emphasize the necessity of the home's beginning the training in physical mental, social, and spiritual activities.
8. To create interest in all the things that God has made.
9. To advance world peace by creating a spirit of Christian brotherhood

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

March 20, 1939

Miss Genevieve Stevenson
Eldora
Iowa

Dear Miss Stevenson:

Dr. Louis H. Evans, the President of our Board, has referred to me your letter of February 13th regarding the situation at Anchorage. I am not in touch with this local situation, but will have it looked into.

Dr. John M. Somerndike, who administered the work in Alaska, passed away suddenly last week so I will not be able to confer with him about it. However, I shall have it looked into and see what can be done.

Sincerely yours,

E. Graham Wilson
General Secretary

EGW:ES

February XIII -
Eldora. Iowa

My dear Dr. Evans -

After much thought I am sending the enclosed letter to you. I have been in Iowa since Christmas, at the old home - and expected to go east ere this - I concluded stopping in Pittsburgh to talk over this situation with you - but an operation on my mother's eye next month is keeping me here until April when I shall go right through to Washington to see the children there -

The writer of the letter

is Robert B. Atwood - editor and manager of the newspaper at Anchorage, Alaska. His wife has lived in Alaska most of her life - except for her school years at the University of Washington and Chicago University where she took graduate work in Social Welfare - She is president of the Federated Clubs of Alaska - Bob graduated from Clark University, Worcester, Mass. (his uncle is president of it) and worked on the city paper there - So you see they are trained leaders and can be depended on in what

they say about the church-
Bob was much disappoint-
ed when nothing was done
after he was at Assembly as
Commissioner last year.
Anchorage is the leading
town of Alaska and
should have an outstand-
ing man. There's no
reason why the church
shouldn't be independent-
I hope you can give
this serious thought and
take some action.
My love to Marie.
and best wishes always
for every success in
your work. Thanks
for your consideration! -
Sincerely - Genevieve Stevenson

Anchorage Times Publishing Co.

ANCHORAGE DAILY TIMES "READ BY ALASKANS EVERYWHERE" ANCHORAGE WEEKLY TIMES

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

December 12, 1938

Dear Aunt Genevieve:

In a recent letter to Evangeline you inquired how things are going with our little church here, and I have been intending to answer it ever since. The shop is in the midst of a heavy Christmas business and I have been working night and day trying to keep up with things, consequently this letter has been delayed.

Briefly, the church is still on the downhill toboggan and I don't know what we will do about it. Dr. Somerndyke is siding with the minister and apparently doesn't give much credence to my report on the situation.

Perhaps you will recall that in Philadelphia he expressed complete surprise that the church is getting along so poorly here. He suggested that the Board of Elders take formal action of some kind and send it to him. But to do so would probably mean more trouble and we cannot afford to have that. Alaskans don't like to point the finger at anyone and take action (especially out in the open -- they do it privately quite freely).

When I returned last summer several persons asked me what I accomplished in Philadelphia. I told them and they took the report rather indifferently and one of the men who was the most bitter about the pastor when I left said he would not be willing to take part in a move to get rid of him. Others were indifferent. So the Elders have taken no action.

I am enclosing a clipping from last Saturday's paper showing the church announcements for this little city. There are now 10 churches. When I came here three years ago there were only ~~three~~ four. The others have sprung up and grown by taking from our church. It is quite a problem. We often have more in our choir than in the congregation and recently the choir has adopted the practice of sitting in the congregation after the anthem, so that the pastor would have somebody to preach to. (Shout at, as some put it).

I really believe Rev. Mr. McAdoo has killed all chances of ever building up a church here. It has come to the place where everything he does irritates the people. He is indicted every time, or almost every time, two or more church people meet. We had two couples at our house after church last night and discussed the situation until midnight. This letter is largely the result of that.

PRINTING IS THE INSEPARABLE COMPANION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Before I went to the Assembly I called on Mr. McAdoo and told him what I had been instructed to report to Mr. Somerndyke. It was a difficult task for me but I could not see how it would be fair to make such a report without his knowing it. Mr. McAdoo expressed surprise and had no suspicion there was such a feeling. When I returned he asked me what happened and I told him just what I told the others.

Just a week or so ago, Mr. McAdoo received a letter from Dr. Somerndyke and he read it to his wife. The letter commented on McAdoo's fine reports and asked if Mr. Atwood and the others were feeling better about the church. That was apparently the first Mrs. McAdoo had heard about it and she asked questions which Mr. McAdoo answered by saying it was the first he had heard of it.

Naturally, the minister's wife thought that rather an underhanded trick to make such a report and her husband agreed with her. He said he would "go right over to see Mr. Atwood about it," put on his hat and left.

A couple of ladies of the church, among those who requested me to make the report, called on Mrs. McAdoo while he was "over seeing Mr. Atwood." She told them what had happened and said Mac was over at my office at that time. Before the ladies left, Mac returned and looked rather sheepish when Mrs. Mac told him she had just been talking to the ladies about it.

The actual fact is that Mac never came to see me. I never knew of the letter until the ladies asked me about my visit from Mac. He has never spoken about it. Meanwhile, the episode has been breezed around so that almost everyone knows about it and it is ~~used~~ MENTIONED as another "childish" thing the pastor has done.

There are a thousand things that rouse the ire of the congregation. Last Sunday morning there were only six little girls in the junior choir, instead of the usual dozen or 18. After they had sung, the minister made fine comments about their fine work. He apparently meant well, but the way he did it made parents of children who weren't there angry and at least one mother said her son would never have to sing again if he didn't want to.

In his sermons, Mac has condemned "breeds," meaning the various people we have here that you know about -- half Eskimo, half Indian, etc. He chastized the Filipinos in his sermons. Last Sunday night he banged away at the many people who come to Alaska each summer and spend their winters in the states. We had many of them with us -- I say had because I don't expect to see them any more. The congregation tapers off after each sermon.

In his prayers he has asked that "those who have given" ~~to~~ be blessed, referring to the offering. He has offended all the pianists so that Evangeline is the only one left.

The minister's children are unmannerly and undernourished, in appearance anyway. Last week the youngest one, about 18 months old, couldn't walk because one leg gave way every time she stepped. They rushed her to the hospital and told the doctor she had hurt her leg. He couldn't find any hurt and has expressed the opinion that malnutrition is the trouble. The baby sits in a high chair at meal time and slings food on the floor that she doesn't like. That is not gossip. I have seen it. Mac laughs.

These are only some of the things that give rise to very bitter conclusions.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barry and Mr. and Mrs. O'Neil quit the church recently and are going to the Church of the Open Door. They are very fine people. He is superintendent of public utilities and I have tried time and again to sell him the idea of joining our church. He has been quite active in the past two years. But I ran up on an unbreakable barrier -- they were members of a church in Hood River and did not feel that they wanted to transfer "yet." One time, getting rather confidential, I asked him if the real reason wasn't the minister. He said yes.

I cannot make myself urge anyone to join our church for the real, substantial reasons for joining. We have nothing to offer. I have never yet gotten a thing out of a service, except perhaps a grumble. My appeal to people to join is to try to build up a church and make it amount to something.

Last night we had Dr. and Mrs. Heitmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Sogn as our guests after church. The doctor is a trustee. Mr. Sogn and I are Elders. By comparing notes on what people were saying and doing, we found that there is a very strong drift away from our church and to the Church of the Open Door. The easiest thing for the rest of us to do would be to go along, too, and thus get rid of Mac. But that would mean our church would close up.

The only solution we could see was to have the Board of National Missions call Mac to some other field -- make him an offer. If we do anything here it is bound to make a split in the church. I only know only two people who are strong in supporting them and they have not been to church for several weeks now. Maybe they are growing tired of it.

I am now missing every service I can possibly miss, simply because the service is so empty. Last Sunday I worked all morning. Last Saturday night the Elders were to have their monthly meeting and I couldn't go. As a result the Elders didn't meet. I doubt that we ever will again, the way things stand now. Two other elders have since told me how glad they were there was no meeting, and that they will not be able to attend the next meeting.

Since returning from the Assembly I had the Elders organize and follow a regular order of business. One purpose was to get a monthly report from the pastor. At the first meeting with

the new organization, the pastor reported he had made 40 calls, preached about 18 sermons, conducted many meetings, etc. The report was true, probably, but also ridiculous. It made it look as though he is doing wonderful work. He preaches three sermons each Sunday -- counting a five minute "children's sermon" which consists merely of a story with a moral. None of us could imagine who the 40 calls were on. Then the pastor took up about two hours of our time by reading from various church laws and rulings that had no bearing on the points under discussion. It happened that the Elders were trying to find some way to make the Trustees more effective and interested in their work. We have six trustees and they have met twice in the last year. When they meet again three of them are going to resign. They have tried to have meetings three different times and failed to get a quorum. The pastor read page after page from the laws on the topic "Dissension between the Elders and Trustees." We had no dissension and the entire reading was superfluous.

I forgot to mention when discussing that letter from Dr. Somerndyke, that Mrs. McAdoo told the ladies that Mac was not going to be pushed out of Anchorage. "He will fight and show these people who is running this church," she was quoted as saying. That shows the spirit pretty well.

Everyone agrees that if Mac's pay were cut or stopped, or even made irregular, he would lose interest rapidly because that is all he wants. He gets A little more than $180 monthly, plus a manse that would cost $50 to rent, plus a telephone and many many boxes of clothing from the states. Just think of the money people are spending on missionary work -- and it goes to a fellow like this.

When the time came for the Elders to make annual application for missionary aid, I proposed an increase over last year because we are going to have a tough year ahead. At present the public schools are paying us $50 a month rent for using our quarters, and the church is just barely paying its bills. In February that rent stops. Where will we be then ? MacAdoo said he would take a cut in salary rather than ask for more missionary money. So it stands like that -- we requested the same amount as last year and we all believe that if we had a live church here doing effective work the church would be entirely independent. We have 3000 persons and $3,000,000 in the banks, the highest per capita bank account of the nation as far as I know. We have three night clubs, 37 beer parlors, 450 fine automobiles, Venetian blinds in most of the homes, automatic stokers and electric ranges, refrigerators, electric shavers and every convenience imaginable -- but the church is always in financial trouble.

I could go on and on, but I am afraid I have talked you to sleep already. It is a sad situation and I would like very much to have advice from you as to what we should do. I would resign as an Elder and give up, but there is no one to take the job.

Evangeline and Marilyn are well and happy. We have added a Scotty pup to the family and he is lots of fun. We got her for Marilyn but I believe Evangeline and I enjoy her just as much. Evangeline will be in San Francisco this spring and you may be seeing her. But I believe I will be sitting right where I am now, doing what I should be doing right now -- working.

Business is good, but expenses are mounting uncomfortably rapidly. Our competitor who runs that "obscure shop down the street," has gone broke and wants to sell out. I may buy some of his equipment, especially if it will hurry him out of town. He has been a disturbing element here for us and probably cost us two or three thousand dollars in the past year.

You were certainly a great help to me at the Assembly by giving me the names of so many leaders. I discussed our church problem with many ministers and they all told me there was no need of having a second-rate man here at the salary we are paying. So why have we ?

Give my regards to John.

Love

Bob

P.S. This was written at 9 p.m. after a busy day. Please pardon the many errors in typing and the loose phraseology. I didn't take time to really think what I was going to say, otherwise I could have been much more Brief. And I didn't want to dictate a letter such as this to a stenographer. Things travel too fast in a small town.

Mar.
24th
1939

Rev. William A. McAdoo,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

No doubt by this time you have received the announcement of Dr. Somerndike's sudden death. His passing has left a deep void in our work and in our hearts, but we are bravely trying to carry on as we know he would want us to.

I have consulted with Dr. Morse with reference to your letter of March 10th. He advises me to say that while you are not technically eligible for your furlough privileges until October 1939 - or five years after your appointment in Alaska - he is willing to waive that requirement of the Board in order that you may take your furlough when you come out to the General Assembly in Cleveland in May and in order to conform to the rule of the Board "that so far as practicable such furlough be taken in the year in which the missionary is elected as a commissioner to the General Assembly".

As a commissioner to the General Assembly, your expenses are paid by the Assembly. The Board will pay the expenses of Mrs. McAdoo and your children from Anchorage to Seattle and return. If you should require an advance for these expenses, kindly let me know and I shall be glad to send it to you. You are entitled to boat fare, berth, meals, and transfer of baggage.

Of course it will be understood that if you return to Anchorage you will not be entitled to another furlough for five years.

Very sincerely yours,

BH [illegible] UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

4-5-39

Dear Miss Happ;

It was a geat shock for us to learn of the sudden death of Dr. Somerndike, and we feel the loss of a sincere friend.

And in reply to your letter of March 24th, let me say that I will not require an advance for the expenses of my family to Seattle.

I will be prepared to render you a statement at the General Assembly, if you so wish. I will be leaving for the Assembly the last of April, so any further communication will not reach me.

I would appreciate it greatly too if you would hold my salary check for me until that date.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

William A. McAdoo

W. A. McAdoo, Th. M., Pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Anchorage, Alaska

4-15-39

Dear folks;

The month was filled with events, both sad and joyful. First was the tragedy of a lost plane with five aboard. The pilot was well known here and left a wife and two small children. Fortunately, a teacher resigned at Palmer and she landed the job.

Second, at the meeting of the congregation, I resigned from the pastorate of the Anchorage First Presbyterian Church to be effective June 1, 1939. It is possible that you already know the details, so I will not burden this letter with them. But if not I will be glad to tell you as I expect to see some of you at the Assembly, and in New York.

Our services over Easter were better than ever. The Church was beautifully decorated with a large cross covered with lilies, and with many potted plants, and narcissus. Enclosed are copies of the program, which was the best since I have been in Anchorage. The Junior Choir outshone the adult choir.

Six children were to be baptized but on account of the 'Flu' only two of them were present. The week before Easter eighty six children were out of school with the 'Flu'. And four people were to become members of the Church and all were absent for the same reason.

In spite of all the sickness, we had record attendences at the morning Worship and Sunday School. The Church was filled to its capacity. And for the evening we were surprised that as many turned out as did for usually there had been a let-down on Easter Sunday evening.

Early Easter Sunday Morning the C. E. got up for a sunrise service. We met at the Church at five o'clock, for the sun was to rise at 5:12, and hurried to the appointed place and just as we arrived the sun rose in all the glory of an Easter morning. We had a half hour service and went back to the Church for our breakfast.

The choir had its usual social and the Junior Choir also had a party after the Easter services.

I am anticipating an enjoyable trip East to the Assembly. I have been chosen commissioner from Yukon Presbytery. It will be my first time to the Assembly. I have quite an assortment of pictures and a few things in the way of curios that would make good subject matter for a lecture. I may try my hand at it for a while after the Assembly. It all depends on what contacts I can make while I am outside.

The C. E. is under active leadership now and is definitely pointing to the Summer Conference at King's lake. Last year because of the time of the conference, we had only one representative from our Church. This year we hope to have six or more.

Sincerely yours,

William A. McAdoo

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
REV. W. A. MCADOO, PASTOR
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 1939

MORNING WORSHIP, 11:00 A. M.

PRELUDE- "The Magic Bells"- Adolf Ruthardt
*PROCESSIONAL- 165- "The Day Of Resurrection"
*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER
BAPTISM OF INFANTS
RECEPTION OF MEMBERS
OFFERTORY- "Au Matin"- Benjamin Godard
SERMON- Nehemiah 6:16, "God Builds A City"
EASTER MUSIC BY THE CHOIR
"Christ Is Risen"- Choir with solo by Miss Miller
"Awake, Ye Saints"- Choir with obligato by Mrs. Harrison
"Welcome Happy Morning"- trio by Mesdames Howard, Mills, Logan
"Since By Man Came Death"- Choir
"He Watching Over Israel"- Choir
"Silent The Sleeping Town"- Choir
"As It Began To Dawn"- Choir with women's chorus
"Calvary"- solo by Mrs. Moritz Andresen
"Unfold, Ye Portals"- Choir with solo by Mrs. Jones
"Hallelujah"- Choir
*RECESSIONAL- 54- "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"
*BENEDICTION

- -

MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR:-

SOPRANOS:- Mrs. Henry Howard, Mrs. Harry Swank, Mrs. Glen Jones
Mrs. Edwin Suddock, Miss Hannah Mellum, Mrs. Robert Mills
Miss Opal Miller, Miss Lillian Anderson.

ALTOS:- Mrs. H. R. Menzel, Mrs. Arthur Waldron, Mrs. Anne Logan
Mrs. W. L. Kinsell, Mrs. Henry Sogn, Mrs. U. S. Hanshew.

TENORS:- Edwin Suddock, Walter January

BASSES:- R. B. Atwood, W. L. Kinsell, Henry Howard, W. A. McAdoo

DIRECTOR:- Mrs. Jack Harrison, ACCOMPANIST:- Mrs. R. B. Atwood.

- -

EASTER MESSAGE:-

This is Easter day, and one of the happiest days of the whole year. Today we remember the glad first day of the week so long ago when the Lord Jesus rose from the dead and came forth from the cold dark tomb. You remember the story, don't you- of how Jesus died on the cross on Calvary and was buried in a garden in Joseph's tomb, but on the third day the stone was rolled away and Jesus rose from the dead, and Angels announced the glad news with, "He is risen."

Because He rose from the dead, all who belong to Him shall also be raised up. He says, "Because I live, ye shall live also." So we look forward to a glad day when the graves of all those who sleep in Christ are to be opened and the dead in Christ are to be raised up. Then we which are alive at His coming shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Easter day gives us this glad promise.

Your Pastor.

7:30 P. M., EVENING WORSHIP

CANTATA, "THE MEANING OF EASTER"- BY THE JUNIOR CHOIR

Prelude- Prelude to the Cantata
*Processional- 95- "Christ Arose"
PART I
Opening Chorus- by the Choir
Prayer- by Rev. McAdoo
"The Meaning of Easter Day"-
by Edith Erickson, Jean Vaara, Sydney Jean Raynor
"The Easter Time"- by the Choir
Scripture- Matthew 28:1-10, by Frank Berry
"The Empty Tomb"- by Harriet Jenkins
"Some Strange Easter Cermonies"- by Frank Berry
"Our Hearts Respond"- by the Choir
"How a Plant Taught Faith, Hope, And Love"-
by Betty Vaara, Barbara Smith, Florance Jenkins
Reading From Solomon's Song- by Leslie Waldron
"Rejoicing in the Spring"- by the Choir
"What Freddie Learned at the Window"- by Jack Kunz
"Working For Jesus"- by the Choir
END OF PART I
Announcements
Offertory- "Song Of April"- Theodore Lack
Junior Easter Sermon- "Consider The Lilies"- by Rev. McAdoo
PART II
"Step by Step"- by the Choir
"The Birth of Jesus"- by Jean Landstrom
"The Growth of Jesus"- by Pearl McCallum
"The Death and Resurrection"- Maxine Keller
"How To Live"- duet by Louann Raynor and Bettie Neese
Scripture Reading- by Margaret Jones and Frank Berry
"Gifts For Jesus"- solo by Barbara Smith
"The Lily At Night"- by Bettie Neese
"The Garden"- by Louann Raynor
"In The Hereafter"- duet by Bettie Neese and Louann Raynor
Scripture Reading- by Frank Berry
"Blessed Jesus Can It Be?"- by the Choir
END OF PART II
*Recessional- 94- "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"
*Benediction

- -

MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR CHOIR:-

Edith Erickson, Jean Vaara, Sydney Jean Raynor, Frank Berry
Harriet Jenkins, Betty Vaara, Barbara Smith, Florence Jenkins
Leslie Waldron, Jack Kunz, Jean Landstrom, Pearl McCallum
Maxine Keller, Louann Raynor, Bettie Neese, Margaret Jones
Robert Metzdorf, Glen Jones, Joyce Smith, Anna Parsons
Betty Amundson, Gladys Markley, Phyllis Reed

DIRECTOR, Mrs. Anne Logan; ACCOMPANIST, Mrs. R. B. Atwood

- -

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as My Father hath sent me, even so send I you." John 20:21.

The Board of Home Missions,
Presbyterian Church,
156 - 5th Ave,.
New York,.N.Y..

Anchorage, Alaska
May 3 1939.

To the Secretary,

WE the undersigned members of the Church and contributing members of the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Anchorage, Alaska, prayerfully request the reappointment of Rev. W.A. Mc Adoo to the pulpit of the above mentioned.

We feel that Rev. Mc Adoo should be reappointed to the Anchorage church not only because we selfishly want him back, and for our own spiritual welfare, but also because we believe in all justice that this would be the means of giving him personal vindication from the charges which have so wrongfully been advanced against him by a powerful minority.

SIGNED:

Muriel Olson
Edith P. Waldron
Arthur F. Waldron
Winifred Erwin
Thora Erwin
Mattie Bailey
Gladys Swank
Alex Swank
Ethel R. Davies
B.G. Davies
Peter Thorson
Petra Thorson
Mrs Fred Corey
L. L. Bloom
Walter Lederman
Mrs. Walter Lederman
Beth Vernon
Reginald Vernon
Mrs J. C. Knapp

Mrs H. S. Freeman
Harold S. Freeman
Mrs. Dave Patterson
Mrs Harry Hoyt
Mrs Adeline Harris
Mrs C. J. Harris
Mrs Mabel Trundell
Mrs Ediz Galva
Mr & Mrs Galva
Agnes. Clinnie
James Clinnie
Mrs. L. H. Heffentrager
Geo Ringord
Edna F. Andersen
Della Kimball
Monty A. Andresen
Mr. and Mrs Emard
Mrs. Walter Leeland
Martin J. Price
Mrs M. J. Price
Mrs. Luther Nicely
Mrs. Ralph Lenhart

(over)

Harvey Hoyt
Velma Erwin
Sarah M. Brown
Mariola Marsh
Jessie Parsons.
Mary Crocker
Evelyn Vandetson
Frank Kirkpatrick
Eileen Smith
Mrs Geo. L. Jenkins
Mary M. Sharpe.
Betty Mc Callum
Pearl Mc Callum
Helmer Olson
Bernice Menzel
57- A.R. Menzel.
Harry L. Swank
Bernice Burgan
William L. Burgan
M Kirkpatrick
Phyllis Reed
Edwin M. Suddock
Mary A. Suddock

262 Conway St.
Carlisle, Pa.
May 15, 1939

Dear Miss Happ;

The later services of my ministry in Anchorage were far better than the first, by nearly half a hundred. I wish I could put on paper the mixed emotions through which we passed upon leaving Anchorgge. It is really very difficult to leave a place in which you have worked and become so attached to the people, and we would have gone through the same experience though we were not leaving for good.

But that is beside the points I want to make in this letter. First, the Palmer C. E. visited us on the first Sunday and gave our C. E. some enthusiasm for the Summer Conference. We expect that ten from the Anchorage Church will attend this year. The C. E. plan a return visit to Palmer in the near future, the time depending on the condition of the road.

. The only thing that hurt the Church more than anything was the fact that when people learned the situation they refused to become a part of the Church. There were ready about a dozen people for membership. And a number spoke of a desire to have nothing more to do with the Church, and a number more wanted to do drastic things like having the elders resign, or form a new Church, but I think that with the help of the Rev. John E. Youel of Fairbanks, we steered the Church to hold together, and to work together for the best interests of the Church. I insisted that I was for the best interests of the Church regardless of what happened to me, and that I wanted the Church to progress and grow in the work of the Kingdom of Christ. That is my constant prayer.

My work ended with the last day of April, though the Church paid me until June 1, and accepted my resignation to be effective on June 1. As I was really in the employ of the Church and represented the Presbytery of Yukon at the General Assembly , I was logically entitled to what they did.

Needless to say, I was impressed greatly with my first General Assembly. I want to carry some of the enthusiasm of it to some Church that we may both grow together.

I preached in Chico and Sacramento, California, on the way to the Assembly. Dr. C. E. Kircher made a trip to Alaska a few years ago and stopped at Anchorage, where we gave him every consideration showing him the Church and manse, and at which time he jokingly said if you ever want to settle in California, let me know. I wrote to him and asked if he could keep his promise, and he wrote immediately that he had arranged for me to candidate for two Churches. I filled those appointments. And I have included the statistics of the services in my report. At the Church in Sacramento I gave quite a lecture- showing seventy five slides, a reel of motion pictures, and curios, and talking besides to the Junior C. E. My wife also talked to the Young People's Society.

Thank you for reading this far.

Sincerely yours,

William A. McAdoo

William A. McAdoo

Confidential

MEMORANDUM March 5, 1946

To - - Dr. B. Graham Wilson
From - Unit of Work in Alaska
re: - Information about The Rev. William A. McAdoo, formerly at Cordova and Anchorage, Alaska and now a Chaplain

In accordance with your request, we sent a copy of Mr. Frederick J. Michel's letter on to Dr. Jackman with some observations from correspondence here in the office. Dr. Jackman replied as follows:

> "Tell Dr. Wilson I have no further knowledge about Mr. McAdoo. No one has mentioned him up there. Mr. Bingle would be the only minister in that area who would have any personal knowledge of him. A minister enters the chaplaincy as a 1st Lieut. In six months he may become a Captain. If a man is a Chaplain for three years and does not surpass the rank of Captain, it would seem the army does not consider his ability out of the ordinary or else he is assigned to some corner where his ability is unrecognized. On the surface it would seem that McAdoo is not outstanding but I have no right to prejudge him without personal knowledge. Give this observation to Dr. Wilson."

Mr. Jackman further suggested that we forward the information which we sent him on to you. Chaplain McAdoo served Cordova Alaska from Nov. 1, 1935 and Anchorage, Alaska from July 1, 1936 through June 1, 1939. First Young People's Conference of southwestern Alaska held at King's Lake from August 26 through Sept. 1, 1938. The Rev. Mr. McAdoo was Camp Director and taught two classes at the conference.

4/1939 appointed as Commissioner to General Assembly from Yukon Presbytery.

Something must have happened according to the correspondence in Alaska but no mention is made of any particulars in McAdoo's letter. In Feb. 1939 a Miss Genevieve Stevenson of Eldora, Iowa sent Dr. Louis H. Evans a letter which was sent her from Mr. Robert B. Atwood, Editor and Manager of the Anchorage Daily Times re: Mr. McAdoo. The gist of this five page letter is that Mr. McAdoo apparently was very tactless and the church went down in membership under his leadership. In his sermons he apparently condemned "breeds" meaning the various people in Anchorage, half Eskimo, half Indian, etc. The congregation seemed to taper off after each sermon. He offended people so that they would not cooperate. The minister's children were unmannerly and undernourished and not brought up very well. The people left the Presbyterian Church to attend the Church of the Open Door. There are other complaints in this letter and they decided that the Board should call Mr. McAdoo to another field as the only solution.

There is no written data re: Dr. Somerndike's reaction to all of this. His death took place in March 1939.

April 1939 Mr. McAdoo wrote Board re: resignation from Anchorage Church as of June 1, 1939.

March 5, 1946

In May 1939 the members of the Church and contributing members of the congregation (64 names on petition) sent in a request for the reappointment of Rev. McAdoo to the pulpit of the Anchorage Church. They felt that he should be reappointed to the Church not only because they selfishly want him back, and for their own spiritual welfare, but also because they believe in all justice that this would be the means of giving him personal vindication from the charges which have so wrongfully been advanced against him by a powerful minority. Mr. Atwood, mentioned on the first page, did not sign the petition.

Our office has not further information about The Rev. William A. McAdoo.

Unit of Work in Alaska
per

FK

Confidential

Noted March 1, 1946
Re: - Information per office correspondence about The Rev. William A. McAdoo:

Served Cordova, Alaska - from Nov. 1, 1935
" Anchorage, Alaska " July 1, 1936 thru June 1, 1939

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4/1939 appointed as Commissioner to Gen'l Ass'y from Yukon Presbytery.

4/15/1939 wrote re: resignation from Anchorage Church as of 6/1/39

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Dr. Jackman: You may the history of this but just gave you the above data as it appears on our records and perhaps to help you answer Dr. Wilson's letter. He would like you to reply to him as to how well qualified Mr. McAdoo would be for the LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT.

FK